**Academic Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, August 28, 2019**

**Approved**

***Call to Order***

Academic Senate Chairperson Susan Kalter called the meeting to order.

***Roll Call***

Academic Senate Secretary Martha Horst called the roll and declared a quorum.

***Chairperson's Remarks***

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. We have a quorum, and we have a Senate. This is wonderful. Good evening again everyone. I just want to start by thanking again President and First Lady Dietz for hosting us at the University Residence. It’s always nice to be reminded how important it is for the President, the Provost, the Vice Presidents (even all the deans show up) to listen, to respond to us our thoughts, ideas, concerns for the faculty, students, and staff, both through the Senate, this governing body, and our other branches of shared governance.

It’s worth starting out the year reminding ourselves of the importance of our foundational documents: the Memorandum of Understanding, and the ISU Constitution. The Memorandum was signed a little over twenty years ago by the chairperson of the Senate, the President of the University, and the chairperson of the Board of Trustees. And by a little over twenty years ago, I mean January 1999, so almost exactly 20 years ago. They put into place an ethic of trust among the Senate, the administration, and the governing board by recognizing that primarily faculty and students with expertise in academic matters, faculty affairs, and student affairs should be and would be entrusted to make decisions about those important matters, to be the primary governing body for the university. The Board acts as the steward for our fiscal interest, and makes many other major decisions, but the President alone, as an academic him- or herself, has the authority to appoint faculty, hire staff, terminate employment contracts, approve tenure and promotion, sign off on policy changes, and the like, and never does so without receiving recommendations from some part of our extended shared governance network. The Academic Senate makes recommendation to the President and Board, but only in exceptional circumstances, will the President or the Board modify or reject those recommendations; and if they do they will communicate with us concerning their rationale. This veto power has never been formally invoked, because the memorandum put in place a practice of communication with the administration and staff prior to our making our recommendations. This MOU and the Constitution that articulated our rights, freedoms, privileges, responsibilities, protections, and governing structures have made for one of the healthiest Senate-administration relationships that I know of in the State of Illinois and in many places beyond.

One announcement that I do need to make, again, tonight as I did at this time last year regards the ad hoc committee from two years ago, the Code of Student Conduct Review Committee was stymied in finishing its work last year for a few reasons, but primarily because of the conversation going on at the national level related to Title IX regulations and enforcement on campuses. The ad hoc committees in general are usually seated for only one year at a time and this committee’s charge was actually already extended last year on the first day of our meetings; so the Senate needs to be onboard with another extension of the Student Code Review Committees charge into this year. I have been told by University Counsel that they are expecting required changes to be promulgated from the federal level in the middle of the academic year, which is a situation that is far from ideal, and would likely lead to the President having to put a new Code in place to comply with federal laws and regulations, prior to ad hoc committee and final Senate review for discretionary changes. So I want to turn for a moment to Dr. Johnson just to ask him to confirm or correct any of that. And then ask if anyone has any objections to extending the charge.

Senator Johnson: That is affirmative.

Senator Kalter: Excellent. All right. Do we have any objections? Does anyone want to object to extending the charge for the ad hoc Student Code of Conduct Review Committee? All right, seeing none, let’s take a formal vote.

Motion by Senator Horst, seconded by Senator Degrauwe and Senator Campbell, to extend the Student Code of Conduct ad hoc committee’s charge. The motion was unanimously approved.

Next thing I’d like to do is introduce everyone to our office administrator, Cera. She’s sitting to the left of Senator Horst. She got married over the summer, congratulations. So now, if you haven’t already seen them, you’ll be seeing email messages from Cera Hazelrigg, and yes, it is Cera as in Kiera Knightly, not Sara as in Sara Gilbert. So her name is Cera. Cera sends all the agendas and materials out for each meeting, helps with things like meeting locations, parking passes, all kinds of logistics. She provides minutes for the Senate, the Caucus, and Executive Committee meetings, and she can field any other questions that you may have, and if she doesn’t know she’ll ask myself or she’ll ask Martha.

A few reminders. We play by a loose version of Robert’s Rules of Order to ensure that our meetings are efficient and inclusive. We may sometimes place upper limits on the amount of floor time that any one speaker can use during any one topic of discussion or debate, so that all the interested voices can be heard, and the points can be made but not belabored.

Also a reminder, that during the Information sessions, we raise questions, concerns, and suggestions regarding the recommendations that an internal committee is bringing forth; and if there are several of those, or if the concerns are of a significant nature, we send the recommended changes back to the committee for reconsideration, or sometimes out to other eyes and ears for further advice. At the Action stage, we debate and ultimately vote.

So I want to say welcome to the 2019-2020 year on the Academic Senate, and thank you for volunteering your service, and your time, whether you’re new or returning. I hope this experience will offer you a chance to do the work that you find interesting, and make you feel like you’re contributing to making the University better.

Last year I made some comments about events on the national level, and I regret to say that one entire year later those comments still need to be renewed. Some of you may have heard our own WGLT radio station interviewing IWU Professor Kathleen O’Gorman who spent her summer interviewing children being held at US immigration facilities. She reported on disgraces like toilets being located in the middle of the cages where the children are being kept so that they will have to go to the bathroom in front of one another; a sick child whose medication and clothes were both taken away so the child had to sleep naked on a concrete floor for four days, while getting progressively sicker; young girls being force to perform as mother to even younger children whom the government had stripped of their actual caregivers; and a boy stunned into muteness by his trauma. Now we are hearing that that government is planning to house families together for indefinite periods of time, a clear violation of human rights, and to deprive these persons of vaccinations against this year’s influenza virus. I fear that we are all being trained into a culture of learned helplessness in relation to this abuse toward what I consider our spiritual brothers, sisters, children, parents, and grandparents as we try to protest man’s inhumanity to man. The government of the United States is engaged in cruel and unusual punishment of people who have never been tried or convicted of breaking any law.

So I want to say here what I said last year, as the chairperson of the Academic Senate at a university that began as a normal school, and where so many of our faculty and students are involved in areas related to child development and the education of youth, it would be remiss for me not to say that this is one of the greatest atrocities that I’ve ever seen perpetuated by the United States government in my adult lifetime. That I would never have imagined that we would witness this kind of kidnapping of infants and children from their parents, nor that it would endure this long. We must continue to rise out of, rise above our partisan identities, and recognize ourselves first as moral beings. Beings of conscious. Beings of obligation to a higher power or purpose than base political interest, and unite to force an end to these outrages.

And with that very serious note, I will hand things over to Senator Solebo for Student Body President’s Remarks, and then take questions for either of us following her remarks. Thank you.

***Student Body President's Remarks***

Senator Solebo: Hi everybody. I just wanted to talk about some events first that are going to be happening on ISU’s campus. As most of you know, tomorrow is Festival ISU, which is from 10:00 to 3:00 located on the entire Quad. So if you have students that are interested in getting involved just make sure that they go out there, and are able to talk to different clubs, and RSOs.

Quad Jam, which is September 7, 2:00 to 6:00 pm, is geared towards underrepresented students, so if you have students that are interested in getting involved in some of those RSOs, definitely make sure to let them know that that’s available; and there’s going to be performances also there.

So some projects that SGA will be working on: It’s Just a Period campaign which gives feminine hygiene products to feminine bodies, so that’s definitely a focal point for this year. The mental health campaign is just making sure that people are having just better mental health in general. Making sure those resources are out there for everybody to know about.

We are going to be having a new Constitution with the work of a lot of the Senators, so we’re going to be getting signatures at Festival ISU, and throughout the year. And this new Constitution would give more of a voice to underrepresented students. And this year SGA will be focusing heavily on retention rates; so we want to make sure that students are having good experiences on campus, and they’re able to come back, and just be successful in general.

And then Success Week. So I wanted to stress that because I wanted to make sure that faculty and staff was following this policy, and making sure that students are able to keep up with the work with finals coming around and what not, and that assignments are doable. So if you have too many assignments due the week before finals, then a lot of the times you’re not able to perform your best during finals time. And then I also wanted to talk about classrooms a little bit. So I wanted to make sure that faculty and staff… just make sure that your classrooms are inclusive to everyone because that can definitely detour a lot of students from learning, or just doing their best in classes. And with that I yield for questions.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. Thank you, Senator Solebo. Do we have any questions for either myself of Senator Solebo? Just wanted to say two things. Senate passed the Success Week policy a couple of years back, and it’s really good that Senator Solebo is saying something about it now because now is the time that… You know, you’ve got to put stuff in your syllabus right now so that if you have something during Success Week the students have fair warning about it. But it’s always better not to do that thing during Success Week, and try to put it the week before, or during the finals. And then I also want to just say congratulations to her and her leadership team for being on GLT (I think it was this morning or yesterday). It was really nice to hear all of your plans, and just hear all of your voices, and hear you get interviewed. So thank you very much.

Senator Solebo: Thank you.

***Administrators' Remarks***

* ***President Larry Dietz***

President Dietz: Thank you very much. It was my pleasure and Marlene’s pleasure to have you out to the house tonight for a reception. We always enjoy that. So for those of you who were able to make that, thanks for coming out. Also want to say welcome back. I know many of us had to take kind of a double look to figure out what room we were going to be in because it looks a little different, and thankfully it looks a little different. So this whole facility’s undergoing a major, major face lift, and so far I’d say it’s really looking great. And kudos to all the folks that worked on this, and LJ and his teams, and all the other folks that are making this a much nicer facility for everybody.

We have a couple of new Board members. I think I may have mentioned before but they were participating in their first Board meeting in July, and those two members are Bob Navarro who’s an alum. He lives in the Chicago area. He’s been very active in our Alumni Association over many, many years, and is only the second Latino that’s ever served on our Board of Trustees. So it’s great to have Bob there. Dr. Kathy Bohn is a local physician, also an alum, and she’s been very active in both the Alumni Association, and also has served on the Foundation Board. And the two of those individuals are really going to provide great service, along with our other Board members. Also, the election of officers occurred recently, and Julie Jones will continue as the Chair of the Board and Mary Ann Louderback will continue as the Secretary of the Board.

You have probably heard that our colleague to my right, and your left, Dr. Murphy has announced her retirement, and so we are starting… getting busy about putting a search committee together. We are going to involve a search firm this time and the name of the search firm has been selected. The name was actually given to us by the Central Management System, and WittKieffer is the name of the firm that will be helping us with the search. We’ve identified a schedule of activities for that. The first meeting’s going to be scheduled September 24. Campus interviews will be held (we hope) February 10 through the 18, with the idea that we’ll have a new Provost on board by July 1. So we’re still rounding out the committee and stay tuned on that.

This fall (and I think Provost Murphy will mention more about this), I’m very pleased that we will have the largest and most diverse first-year class in decades at this university. That doesn’t necessarily mean our overall numbers will go up because we graduated a very large class in May, but nevertheless that’s really great news for the university. That underscores the idea that we have a need for additional housing (and I would imagine Vice President Johnson will talk more about this). We signed an agreement recently to build a facility for up to 1200 beds on the side of the South Towers area, and we look forward to continue to work on that.

Parking in Julian, you may have seen the parking garage in Julian has been closed, and that’s to allow us to make way for new Cybersecurity laboratories in that space. So, we’re looking forward to that. In terms of facilities, plans are already underway for a new Multicultural Center to be open by the fall of 2020. I will have more detail about that in my State of the University Address, which I want to invite you to also. That’s going to be on September 17 at 2:00 in the Center for Performing Arts. So I’ll have more detail about the Multicultural Center there.

Also on September 12 at 3:00pm, I also want to invite you to an event at the Center for Performing Arts again. At that particular event, we will announce the naming of the College of Fine Arts and the School of Art. It’ll be the first naming of a college in the history of the University. So, that is shaping up to be really a terrific event.

Also, I’d be remiss if I didn’t say that this summer, June 30th, with a year remaining on the Redbirds Rising campaign’s last fiscal year that ended June 30th, we surpassed the $150 million goal that we had at that time. Our numbers as of today is that we’ve raised over a $162 million, and we have about a year to go on the campaign. So we’re going to keep our foot on the gas and work hard to raise additional money. But the alums and many of you around this table, and faculty members, and staff, and friends of the university have been very generous to us and have responded to our call to give back, and they’ve done so in great shape. So we appreciate that very much. And with that I’ll yield for questions.

Senator Kalter: Do we have questions for Senator Dietz? I have one. So a couple of people floated the question my way about salary increase outlook for this year. Wondered if you could speak to that?

President Dietz: We always wait until tenth day. It’s looking really good but tenth day is whenever we count the numbers and so forth, and I would hope that we would have another mid-year salary increase. I don’t expect that if we have one it’ll be much above where we’ve been, but some places are still not giving out salary increases due to a lag in enrollments and such, but I think we’ll be able to do that again. That’s our hope.

Senator Kalter: Well that’s as hopeful news as I was expecting. Wonderful. Thank you very much. No other questions for Senator Dietz?

Senator DeGrauwe: Going back to last semester, we had the issue with the State magazine and we said at that time that the magazine was looking at their policies on how things go through the editor’s process. Is there any information on that at all?

President Dietz: Not yet, but I talked with Vice President Vickerman just yesterday as a matter of fact, and they’re going to be coming to our next… We’ve formed a task force to look at all of that, and they’re going to be coming to our next Cabinet meeting, and making a presentation. So I’ll have more information probably at the next Academic Senate meeting.

Senator DeGrauwe: Thank you.

Senator Kalter: Any other questions?

Senator Marshall: So that was 120 beds or?

President Dietz: 1200.

Senator Marshall: Okay.

* ***Provost Jan Murphy***

Provost Murphy: Welcome back to all our students, faculty, and staff. I hope everybody had a good summer, found some time to relax, rejuvenate, and get some scholarly work done. So I’ll try not to repeat anything that the President’s talked about. He mentioned enrollments, so congratulations to admissions, all the various units in Enrollment Management, but also all of you who played a role in recruiting another outstanding class of students to Illinois State. As the President mentioned, this is the biggest freshman or FTIC class in 33 years. I have been here exactly 33 years so I think my work here is done, right. Currently we’re at… well in currently you know we wait until tenth day, you won’t hear the official number, but currently we’re at about 3872 first time in college students, which is up 5% from last year’s class. But having said that, we are down in numbers for transfer students because the community college enrollment in the state is down. So our total incoming class is the same as it’s always been; we usually anticipate about 5000 new students coming to class (a mix of first time in college and transfer students). We have the largest honors class ever. I had to say that sitting here next to my colleague. This is a very academically talented group of students who have chosen Illinois State as their academic home. So we’re very excited to have them come, we’re also proud to have them come and join our student body. About 33% of the incoming class come from underrepresented groups. So this moves us (in terms of total enrollment) we become more diverse with each passing year, as we are hoping and planning for. Large increase in the number of new graduate students, up 12% from last year’s number, so that’s exciting. And total first day enrollment for international students is up 13%. So again, we’re excited about this incoming class of students. We appreciate all the work that this campus does to recruit and enroll that group of students. If we can get students to come visit us, they have a good experience on this campus, and then often time they will come and enroll. And so, again we appreciate all the work that everybody does.

We have a number of searches going on in Academic Affairs. So we have 40 tenured/tenure track faculty searches that are starting this fall. We have 8 department chair and school director searches that will begin. I have a search for an Associate Vice President for Research. We have a search for the Director for the Center of Community Engagement and Service Learning. And we are searching for a Dean of Milner Library, and I’m going to ask you a question on that later. I also hear there is a Provost search kind of kicking off… that’s what I hear.

Congratulations to Rocio Rivadeneyra and Doris Houston who have been elected chair and secretary of the Chairs and Directors Council, respectively. Rocio is the Director of the University Honors Program, while Doris is the interim Chair of the Department of Social Work. So we’re thankful for their leadership.

We have the opportunity for the Center for Teaching and Learning and Technology to design some new space in Milner, and work with their colleagues in Milner Library to do so. About 50% of teaching centers at universities like ISU are housed in the university library. So CTLT is in the process of packing up, relocating to some temporary space in Williams while they plan for their new space. You may see a few fewer programs at CTLT this year as they start to do some strategic planning, and review of their programs, and kind of visioning for their next iteration.

The Means Center for Entrepreneurial Studies has named Professor Avi Datta as its new Director. Dr. Datta is a professor of Management and Quantitative Methods, and we look forward to his leadership.

We recently went through our four-year assurance review with Higher Learning Commission. They accredit our university and all universities in a 19-state area, and we passed with flying colors. There were two areas of concern. One was just the general state of budgets in Illinois, so I thought, okay, we’ll get right on that, see what we can do there. They also had some concern about assessment of our General Education Program. So we’re getting ready to establish a task force to review general education, and once again we’ll have to focus on building campus-wide processes for assessing the performance of general education. So Associate Vice President Amy Hurd, who is here over (Amy wave), is begin planning for that project.

Illinois State University’s chapter of Sigma Delta Phi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honors Society has once again been named an Honor Chapter. It is one of only 16 chapters nationwide given this award, and this is the eighth consecutive year that ISU enjoys this distinction. The Honors Chapter Award is given for excellence in the study of the Spanish language, contributing to cultural understanding, and upholding the goals of the society. Our chapter also received the prestigious Octavio Paz Award of distinction. And Angela Bailey de las Heras who is our chapter advisor was granted the national José Martí Award as outstanding chapter adviser. That is just an amazing accomplishment. So congratulations to Angela, and to all of the members of our student chapter. So thank you. That’s all I’ve got. I’ll answer any questions.

Senator DeGrauwe: I just want to say congratulations to both you, Senator Murphy, and Senator Dietz on finalizing the Academic Progression Partnership with the College of Lake County and the Mennonite College of Nursing. Congratulations on that.

Provost Murphy: Thank you. We’re very excited about that.

Senator Horst: I was wondering if you had a name for the chair of the Provost Search Committee?

President Dietz: I do. Lea Cline has agreed to do that. She’s an Associate Professor in Art History. She’s also been a Fulbright scholar, and has taken on the co-chair role for the Fulbrighter’s on the campus.

Senator Kalter: It was called to my attention today that there were some issues with the catalog, specifically the online version having classes that don’t exist, or numbers that are different, volume split in the middle of the College of Arts and Sciences, and things like that. I’m wondering if you can talk a little bit about that, and whether this impacted more than one college or department.

Provost Murphy: I am going to call Jess Ray, our University Registrar, to the table to answer that question.

Mr. Ray: And I have a quick answer; I don’t know, because it’s not been brought to my attention. So if there is an error, it hasn’t been brought to us yet, so I haven’t had a chance to take a look to see.

Senator Kalter: Okay. Great. That’s helpful, because I only just heard about it. So it is helpful to know. Apparently, our college is working on our end to create a volume three to add classes and requirements, hopefully to get them up by October registration.

Mr. Ray: If that’s something that the college’s… I can talk with the dean, but I’m not aware of it.

Senator Kalter: Okay. Thank you so much. Maybe at next Senate we can have an update on where that went.

Mr. Ray: Sure.

Senator Kalter: That’d be great. Thank you.

* ***Vice President of Student Affairs Levester Johnson***

Senator Johnson: All right. Good evening everyone. I want to start off by thanking this body, as well as the rest of the campus community, for what was an outstanding Welcome Week and move-in process. Due to your efforts supporting our team within Student Affairs, move-in process went extremely smoothly. So for those of you who served as Curb Birds, and things of that nature, we appreciate your efforts, your lifting, your direction, and things of that nature. We are at over 100% in our residential environments. I think we are at about 103%. So we do have some students who are living in temporary housing within some of our lounges, within Tri-Towers, as well as Hewett and Manchester at this point.

We did experience over Welcome Week an engaged first-year class or new students to campus, and our events were attended at a high level and high rate. Of course, weather always helps with that. But students seemed engaged, very much bonding through their experiences, and over the last two weeks we’ve really not had any major incidents and hiccups in that sense. So thank you all for your support of the new students who are coming on to campus and making that process extremely smooth.

The President mentioned the Bone Student Center Revitalization project, and how it proceeds. Hopefully, you are enjoying the latest phase that we are into right now. That’s the first floor corridor. It’s got a new facelift, a little modernized as well, and we are starting to advertise the different type of venues that will be down here on the first floor. So more to come on that as we continue with that project, and then move up hopefully to the second floor as well.

Next item. Again, want to follow-up on the President’s mention of the Housing Master Plan. We did conclude the process for selecting a third party entity to partner with, and that entity is Gilbane. They are out of New Jersey. They have a long history of building residential environments throughout the country, and we feel very special about having a relationship with them, and we are hitting the ground running, and starting to form teams in order to work on initial conversations of the design. We need to pull together agreements, some initial agreements with the entity. And it really is going to work really well in order to fast track this by identifying that south campus is the space that we’re looking at. Want to thank those individuals who worked throughout the summer, and throughout the last spring semester, especially from SGA, and the Association of Residence Hall students who served on those groups in vetting the individuals that we were looking at.

The last item that I did want to bring to your attention is a move that Student Affairs is making in order to come in line with best practices as relates to campus incident response teams. I’ve asked Dean Davenport to join us here in order to make you aware of movement that we’re going to make in order to consolidate some of those teams.

Dr. Davenport: Thank you. What I wanted to talk about, hopefully, most folks are aware that there are four primary care response teams on campus: Dean on Duty, the Critical Incident Response Team, the Redbird Care Team, and the Inclusive Community Response Team. In order to receive a lot of training, and follow best practices for these groups, we participate with a group called NaBITA, the National Behavioral Intervention Teams Association. This summer while having an opportunity to attend the certification training with NaBITA, we had some conversations with legal counsel for NaBITA and offer some information on best practices. One bit of information was that for legal and administrative policies and best practices what the best campuses and smartest campuses are doing is beginning to consolidate the number of those teams, because of things like FOIA requests, lots of different things, the boundaries that a lot of these teams are operating within, and the structures in what they operate in.

So taking that information in play, we came back and reviewed all of those incident response teams. We made a couple of primary changes, so like Dean on Duty which is our primary way in which we interact with students, and our Critical Incident Response Team, for both of those teams we added people to the rotation. We added staff to the rotation of those groups so that we have more opportunities to respond to students while offering less chances for staff burn out. And one of the other changes that we made was the Inclusive Community Response Team which has been in effect for about four years, four and a half years. We took that team and we folded the duties and responsibilities of that team into the Redbird Care Team. The Inclusive Community Response Team, which is a team that responds to incidents of hate or bias on campus, met about every three weeks, and it had membership consisting of Dean of Students staff, Counseling, University Housing, University College, advice from General Counsel’s office, and a faculty member. The membership of the Redbird Care Team is all of those members, and in addition to those members we have case managers from the Dean of Students office, Counseling, ISU PD, Student Health Services, Student Access and Accommodation Services, and Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution office. And so in looking at those two teams, we saw what the Redbird Care Team… what we have is a lot of the services, a lot of the staff, and offices that were already on ICRT. In addition the Redbird Care Team meets every week, and has a regularly scheduled rotation. And so what we made the decision to do was to fold the service of the ICRT into the Redbird Care Team. By doing that the process of the outward facing look of the ICRT will not change. And so the practice for the last several years whenever someone submits an incident to the ICRT, that will come to me and then what I would do is take that and actively form a triage and determine which is the best course or action for that particular incident to go. And so, what we’re going to do now is… again, all the outward information stays the same so if you file a report through the ICRT, if you go to our website all of the information is the same. As it did in the past, the information will come to me, but now we’ll be able to discuss that weekly with the Redbird Care Team, with those members that I just named. We feel this will give us an opportunity to respond to things a little bit quicker, to move with a wider variety of different departments and staff at the table, and to have a more comprehensive practice of moving forward to resolve a lot of these issues. The ICRT had been averaging over the last three to four years about three to five incidents per year. So we feel the Redbird Care Team can easily handle those, and take on those additional incidents without any addition stress to the caseload for the Redbird Care Team. And so, we just wanted to make it a point to share that change with the Senate.

Senator Kalter: All right. Thank you. And I think that was the end of Senator Johnson’s Remarks as well. So we will move to questions for either Senator Johnson or Dr. Davenport.

Senator Kosberg: Do you know how long, because you mentioned it’s temporary for students living in the lounges, do you know how long we can expect them to be in there?

Senator Johnson: I would suspect that many of those actually would be in throughout this fall semester, given the numbers that we have as far as large student class that has come in. I would not expect that they’re going to get out too much sooner… as far as all of them, get out anytime sooner than that. We have had a little success though because we did have folks within Watterson who were in temporary housing, and we’ve actually moved all of those folks out of temporary housing out there, so we’ve had some movement there.

Senator Kosberg: Thank you.

Senator Zamudio: So you’re saying that most of these students are living in lounges and stuff, correct?

Senator Johnson: I did not say most of these students.

Senator Zamudio: Well not most, some of these people are living in the lounges, correct?

Senator Johnson: Some are, yes, correct.

Senator Zamudio: Is that legal because there’s no windows, there’s no…

Senator Johnson: No, there are windows within those…

Senator Zamudio: Lounges.

Senator Johnson: Yes.

Senator Zamudio: And Hewett- Manchester? Or are people not living in lounges in Hewett- Manchester?

Senator Johnson: There may not be lounges within Hewett- Manchester where there are windows. Every place where we have students though, within temporary housing, it is legal. Because, a matter of fact, what happens is as time goes on those students do not want to move out because they have bonded, and they actually enjoy the environment in which they are in. Plus, they’ve bonded with the folks within that floor as well.

Senator Zamudio: Interesting.

Senator Campbell: This question is for Dr. Davenport on the report that you just gave. Is the composition of the teams going to change at all in terms of like membership numbers? Is it going to stay the same? But since it sounds like the duties are kind of two duties are merging into one group, is that team going to get any bigger, or are we going to make the same people do twice as much of the work?

Dr. Davenport: Because of the volume that comes through ICRT, and the number of folks on the Redbird Care Team, we don’t anticipate growing the team at all, and we think with the fluctuations from year to year, the RCT (Redbird Care Team) is prepared to handle any additional things that might come to it.

Senator Campbell: Thank you.

Senator DeGrauwe: For Senator Johnson. My apologies if this is not the correct person for this question. With the now approval of the south campus residence hall, some four years ago when my freshman preview was, my preview guide told me that was the hopeful spot for the new Nursing building, and now it’s going to be a site for a residence hall. Is there a plan to move a Nursing building within the near future, or is that off the table completely?

Senator Johnson: I’m not sure that it’s off the table completely, but I think that we’re probably looking at different venues, and I’ll pass that back on to our… Senator Dietz.

President Dietz: That’s a great question. That, at one time, had been a site that had been considered for a new College of Nursing. There’s no money for a new College of Nursing. The state has not moved in that direction at all. Some elected officials have complained that there’s not enough nurses to go around, and we all know that, but they’ve not really provided any money for nursing. The other part as we’ve rethought this, we really don’t have any other places that are as close for a large residence facility other than that one, and a Nursing facility would have really not taken nearly the amount of space. And so if we go in that direction the idea is that we probably would go closer to the sim lab if we had money for that, and do something on the north end of the campus.

Senator DeGrauwe: Thank you.

Senator Solebo: I wanted to ask Senator Johnson a question. So are they going to give out more off-campus housing exemptions then, since… So like students will get the option of living off campus?

Senator Johnson: If you are referring to when that new residential environment comes on, we will be giving out fewer at that point. The hope and desire is to live into our residential requirement, which is first-year and second-year students live on campus.

Senator Solebo: But I meant for this year. Was there going to be more exemptions give out this year?

Senator Johnson: You know we did actually open up the exemption process two or three additional times in order to try to make additional room for the class that was coming in. We will go with exemptions again for next year since we will not have a residential environment in place. But once that new residential environment does come on and we open up the doors on that we will probably not give out as many exemptions.

Senator Solebo: Thank you.

Senator DeGrauwe: Going off of Senator Solebo’s question, is there a reasoning behind people being denied exemptions when we knew that we… when we could assume that we would be over manned in these housing sites? I know a couple students that have complained that they got denied for an exemption, and now you’re saying we have 3%, or whatever the number was.

Senator Johnson: Great questions, and actually if you look to and for those of you who served on Senate last year, updates were being provided on where the class was and what the class was looking like coming in, numbers weren’t looking all that great. All right. So we have to (as a housing entity) we have to make sure that we are filling our beds as well. So that’s why we only had planned for one or two processes by which we would give out exemptions. Then (and actually I attended the wonderful session that Admissions did earlier today on this class that has come in, and one of the things that they shared was that literally these students and families are making decisions later and later and later. So literally within one week we went from being 300 housing contracts behind to actually 300 ahead, okay. So it’s an interesting game that we’ve got to play as it relates to making sure that our beds are filled. Once that started taking place and those numbers started shooting up, that’s when we went back out and we said, hey, we are going to open this thing back up for folks to have exemptions, and a number of folks did take us up on that.

Senator DeGrauwe: I assume, and I’m hoping that if that’s a trend that people are going to be signing contracts later and later and later, is there a way that we are going to delay our exemption process then, that way this whole process of we’re behind and now we’re ahead doesn’t happen in the near future, until this new South Campus residence hall is built?

Senator Johnson: I’m not sure we can delay the process because there are students who are desiring to secure housing for that next year earlier. Now we don’t want it to be too early, but we want to make sure that we meet those student’s needs as well. So we do have to have some exemption process and hand those out at an earlier date. There’s also individuals that have legitimate, and very needy, off-campus needs (as far as medical exemptions and things of that nature), so we have to provide opportunities early on in order to meet student needs.

Senator DeGrauwe: Thank you.

Senator Kosberg: I live on Hewett floor four where there are two students living in our lounge, and so I’m wondering are they being compensated in any way? Or like do they give reduced housing or anything like that? Because that is a windowless room, and like it’s in the middle of the floor, and like heavy traffic, like I can… I know personally I would not be pleased if I was placed in that situation. So I’m just wondering are they being compensated at all?

Senator Johnson: Yeah, I’m not sure I’d say compensated, but I’m sure that there is a rate by which we provide and that we give to students because of the sheer numbers that we have living within those types of residential environments compared to other. So there is some kind of rate differential then in that sense.

Senator McClellan: So in the past I know a few people that actually were in the lounges, and when they tried to move out of the lounges they had like no help, and they had no car. So what are your plans to help students when they actually do have to move out? Because their parents are gone at this point. When they have to move across campus, there’s no real plan, it’s just like move and you have this time.

Senator Johnson: In most cases, we try to provide an opportunity where that student is moving within their residential environment. On those cases and incidents where it’s across campus, and things of that nature, for the most part students find assistance, and have support from other students doing so. Push comes to shove if a student were in a situation where they have absolutely no help, and so forth, I know from time to time we’ve actually assisted and helped out. Can we do that for everybody? Probably not. But as relates to right now when students do raise a serious concern, we try to address those.

Senator Kalter: All right. If there are no other questions, I have one follow-up question for Dr. Davenport. I think that you in your remarks said that there are no differences between the Redbird Care Team and the ICRT, but I believe that there is one difference, which is that there is a faculty member on ICRT, and Redbird Care has no faculty. Is that correct?

Dr. Davenport: Well, actually there’s a difference of five people. Well, total four. The membership for the ICRT there is a faculty member who isn’t present on the Redbird Care Team, but the additional members are case managers, ISU PD, Student Health Services, Student Access and Accommodation, and SCCR. So those folks are on RCT but they are not on ICRT. So five difference but when you subtract the faculty member there’s a total difference of four more folks.

Senator Kalter: Okay. So one less in terms of taking the faculty member away, and then four more that are not on ICRT that are on the other team.

Dr. Davenport: Right. That is correct.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. Thank you. Any further questions? Okay. Thank you very much.

***Vice President of Finance and Planning Dan Stephens***Senator Stephens: Thank you, Senator Kalter. Good evening and welcome back everyone. I’ll keep my points brief. I just got a couple of items to mention. As we start the term, we’ve over the past year tried to gain some efficiencies in our Comptroller’s Office that manages our student accounting. For students, you should see electronic billings. We’ve been trying to move further and further away from wasting paper, wasting postage. As we were gathering statistics for this fall, we’ve been able to document from this time last year to this year we’ve saved close to $80,000 in either postage costs or paper costs, and in addition to that we’ve (from an environmentally sensitive, you know, sustainability) we’re no longer sending three to five pieces of mail ten times a term. So we continue to move in that direction, but we’re always mindful for input from you. So as much as we love to think we’ve got the pulse of exactly how to communicate, please don’t hesitate to send emails, or go to Student Accounts office and offer ideas and suggestions, we certainly welcome those. So, we thank you for any continued input positive and especially constructive going forward.

From a staffing—faculty and staff—perspective, I just met yesterday with Janice Bonneville, our interim Assistant Vice President for Human Resources, and she shared with me that as of today, I believe, an RFP was issued out to a number of vendors who are in the long term care insurance policy business. Number of vendors out there, for many of you may have elderly parents or you’re trying to acquire policies that down the road where you may feel the need to purchase things now at a reduced price. The State of Illinois doesn’t offer this through CMS, but we are reaching out to vendors to see if they would like to offer to our population of employees. It’s not a cost to the University. It will be plans individualized, and available to anyone at the University who wants to acquire these, and hopefully what we can get from this is a lower rate associated with a higher population. We’ve got over 3,000 employees. I won’t have information for probably a few months as we work through the RFP process, and it is early in that stage, but I’ll be bringing back information, and we’ll be hoping to be adding this type of benefit sometime within this probably calendar year, and maybe in this next year’s cycle. So just wanted to bring that information up. I think it’s very helpful that if we can add opportunities for our employees, and we don’t have to wait on the state to do something like that.

From a facilities perspective, I’ll just add a couple of additional comments from what the President spoke to. As you can imagine, in the summer time we (our facilities team) works diligently to get through as many projects as we can, so that by the time fall classes start very little effort is left. One particular area that you are noticing is the Watterson Dining Facility. You’ve seen that new facility. That was a two-year project. It’s a two-story expansion that started well over a couple of years ago. It just completed this summer. If you’ve had an opportunity, obviously for many of you to eat in there, but we got a chance to tour behind the scenes about a week ago, and it’s phenomenal. So we are very appreciative to our facilities team, and to our partnership with Student Affairs to getting that project done, and I believe the attraction of that new sign beginning to see people using that corner with that Illinois State sign and the Watterson Tower behind it is the new selfie spot. So it looks amazing from that angle.

Milner Library, if you remember over the past year, we had a lot of work on the plaza, on the concrete. You’ll see a new section near the library; it looks like new poured concrete. Well, that was poured and finished last December in a major project design to recapture a significant portion of the first floor of the library that had been closed off because of water leakage over a number of years. That new roofing system was put in place and everything’s been secure. The first floor of the library is now drying clean and is being refurbished as we speak. And we are in the last phase of that project; and a very important phase (which should be finished by this coming spring) is we are installing new high density library shelving down on that first floor, and that will provide a lot more opportunity for continued books, and library storage items to be brought back into the library that had to be removed over a number of years because of the loss of that space. Just to give you a frame of reference, the first floor square footage of Milner Library is the size of Cook Hall. So if you think of walking by Cook Hall and it being closed. Well, that’s a lot of space. Well, that is exactly what that space is down there. So we’re very proud of that effort and you’ll find out more on that part. We’re working with Dean Zeck in this and so we’ll be excited by, should be by next graduation, that’ll all be finished, and we’ll look forward to open up that space for a lot more activity in partnership with the Bone Center Renovation.

The last thing I’ll bring up, I don’t know if any of you traveled to Bloomington/ Normal through the airport, as opposed to by car, but we’ve now got an arts gallery over there. It’s a partnership between the College of Fine Arts, and we’ve got gallery space that is showcasing ISU. And so, next time that you travel through the airport look for that. I’ve had a chance to see it, it’s very beautiful and it definitely is a great advertisement for the university as people travel here. That’s all I’ve got. I’d be happy to answer any questions.

Senator DeGrauwe: Speaking of parking, correct, you handle parking and transportation?

Senator Stephens: Yes, sir.

Senator DeGrauwe: Lot G82, what I call paradise, which is the marching band field sometimes used as a parking lot. Two weeks (ish) our band director, Dr. Ben Stiers, sent an email to someone, I’m not sure who, because there are potholes in that parking lot, which have become a hazard to our marching members. When you are marching backwards and you don’t see a pothole you can hurt yourself pretty badly. In about two weeks, we haven’t had anything done about it to the fact that we’ve had to fill it by ourselves with sand. So I’m curious if there’s any way that can get resolved so we aren’t putting our students at any more risk.

Senator Stephens: Well, thank you for sharing that information. And I will immediately, tomorrow, get in touch with team members, and we’ll have somebody over there assessing it and trying to get it fixed as quickly as possible. Safety’s very important to us here. So thank you. That’s a perfect situation where we have eyes and ears looking out everywhere, but we may not necessarily see everything, so this is a perfect opportunity. Send that information out and I can assure you we’ll be addressing that ASAP.

Senator DeGrauwe: Thank you very much.

Senator Kalter: Other questions? I just had two things. One is going back to what you had said about long-term care insurance. I actually have long-term care insurance through MetLife, and I don’t remember, but I sort of thought it was independent. But when they did one of those raises over the summer where you have to accept the raise or refuse it, and then you can never go up or whatever, I noticed in my paperwork that they sent me that Illinois State University was stamped on it somewhere. So I’m wondering if some time back when, because I think I’ve had it for at least a decade, if at some point we did a different, some sort of offer. So I will send you a piece of what I have and we can see. I just don’t remember in the depths of my memory whether that came out of ISU or somewhere else.

Senator Stephens: Well, we’re hoping to end this process to… There are a large number of groups in this. We’re hoping to get eight to ten organizations to look at our population, and hopefully we can get some very attractive pricing that we can pass along. And so any information that you’ve got that helps educate us in this particular case would be great.

Senator Kalter: That’d be great. I think it’s really great that you’re offering it. I think it’s really important. Right now, I have a relative who just had a stroke, she’s about 80 years old, and does not have it, as far as I understand, and it’s really important, I think, for people to carry it because you can really bankrupt yourself, not just at end of life but in various stages of life.

The other thing I had sent you before the meeting that I was going to ask about, what kind of progress we might have made on analyzing operating budgets in the academic departments and colleges, just wanted to ask where we are on that.

Senator Stephens: Yes. Thank you for sending that. I did speak with Sandy Cavi, our AVP over Budget, and last fall I actually think the conversation probably started from one of the Academic Senate meetings, but actually last fall I worked with Sandy, and we ended up with looking through our budgets, and were able to from a permanent perspective, not temporary, but permanent perspective, we were able to carve out an additional $200,000. And our process was rather than to use our traditional method of just dispersing that, we worked with Provost Murphy and her team, and providing that funding level to her, and then let her, Alan Lacy, and her leadership team make the decisions as they worked with the colleges and the departments to figure out where those resources were most needed. I don’t know if…Dr. Murphy if you’d like to make some comments there.

Provost Murphy: Just that we worked with the deans, who then worked with their chairs and directors to come up with some proposals for what they would need more operating funds for, I mean within the context that it was $200,000. So we were very appreciative of that funding but it wasn’t… I mean we couldn’t just allocate it to all 35 departments, because I think it would not make a huge difference. Anyway, so we worked with the deans through a process, and they forwarded their request for the funds, and those were permanently allocated out to the units that they requested on behalf.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. I hope that we will continue to monitor that, and assess whether or not our departments have the funds that they need to do the operations that they need to do. But that’s terrific. Thank you very much. Does anyone else have any other questions?

Senator Zeck: Thank you. I’d just like to add to what Vice President Stephens said about the renewal of Milner Library. He’s correct that the repair phase of the construction will be finished in the early spring, we hope, possibly even by the end of the semester, but we will not be able to reenter the space immediately. Just wanted to make that clear, because then we will begin a second construction project to build our Student Success Center in that area.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Thank you very much. All right. Assuming there are no further questions, we’ll move on to our agenda items.

***Advisory Items:***

***Academic Calendar 2018-2028***Senator Kalter: The first one is the Academic Calendar for 2018-2028. Couple of things about this: you’ll notice first of all it’s an Advisory Item. If you notice anything sort of minor or relatively minor that seems to be amiss we are some of the many sets of eyes that look at the Academic Calendar every year, hopefully to make sure that ten years out we identify that there’s something that’s not right about the calendar so we can fix it before that year hits. We use to get this only in five-year chunks. We are now going to a ten-year model. So you will notice that 2018 which has already basically passed is still on there, but we talked about it in Exec and decided to just leave that on there for now. I’ve heard the rumor that the reason that we’re now looking out ten years has to do with Registrar’s office stuff, and the Campus Solutions system needing to have—and I’m getting a nod from Jess Ray—needing to have it that far out in order for us to plan better. And then the other thing I should have said earlier was that major issues also you should bring up here, so that if we have something that is major that you want our Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee to look at and consider, that you announce that here, and then we send that to them for consideration. So do we have any comments on the Academic Calendar? All right. If you find anything send it our way, we’re always interested in making sure that it’s perfected before the year hits.

The next thing are Action Items and I’m going to turn it over to Provost Murphy for her request.

***Action Items:***

***Request for exception for Library Dean Search Committee (Provost Murphy)***Provost Murphy: Thank you so much. So I should start by thanking Interim Dean Sheri Zeck for her strong leadership as the Interim Dean of Milner Library. I mentioned that we’re starting a search, and I’m sure you all know that the composition of a search committee for a dean is guided by policy 3.2.13. That policy sets up and is very specific in who should be on a search committee, and how each of those individuals will be elected. One of the things I ask from you for this particular search committee is an exception to that strict composition, in that one of the members set forth by that policy is a department chair or school director, and in Milner Library we do not have departments or schools, so there is no school director/department chair to elect to that committee. But what I would ask you is in place of having that department chair/school director if we could have a second civil service member. The last time we had a search committee for the Dean of Milner Library we did the same thing, and it’s simply because of the composition of the staff in Milner Library. There are over 40 civil service members of the staff in Milner Library and so just thinking about the composition of Milner Library it makes sense to have a second civil service member on that committee. So replacing a department chair/school director, because there are none with a second civil service member of that search committee. And I’ll tell you civil service members of the search committee are elected by the Civil Service Council, and they send those names to me.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. And I’m just going to ask Senator Zeck just before we start discussion and vote about this just to remind us we have how many faculty, how many AP, and how many civil service in the library, just so that we can get a full picture of the proportions and understand the request better?

Senator Zeck: These numbers are probably not exact, I’m not a mathematician, but we have something in the neighborhood of 42 civil service (we just added a couple this week since you asked me the question), we have 14 tenured line faculty, 7 and a half non-tenure track faculty, and 4 or 5 APs.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Do we have discussion about the request, adding an extra civil service member partly because there is no chair/school director there? All right, seeing no discussion.

Motion by Senator DeGrauwe, seconded by Senator Murphy, to approve the Provost’s request for an exception for the Library Dean Search committee. The motion was unanimously approved.

Senator Zeck: May I express my appreciation on behalf of the civil service folks who work very hard to make Milner go.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. And I think Senator Murphy said this: we did this last time we did a dean’s search for Milner, so this is just following that precedent.

***Campus Communication Committee ratification:***

 ***Civil Service chair: Stuart Palmer***

 ***Civil Service member: Beth Theobald***

Senator Kalter: Next thing is Campus Communication Committee. This is a committee that talks to the Board of Trustees every quarter tells them what is on the minds of the faculty, staff, and students on campus. We do ratifications in the Senate for the people who are named, and we had elections or changes over the summer in the Civil Service members, Stuart Palmer (who is sitting across the room from me as Senator Palmer) and Beth Theobald are the two people that the Civil Service Council have put forward. So we are just ratifying their seats on that committee.

Motion by Senator Horst, seconded by Senator Mainieri, to ratify the civil service members to the Campus Communication Committee. The motion was approved.

***Information Items:***

***02.27.19.01 Policy 4.1.18 AAC email (From Academic Affairs Committee)***

***02.27.19.02 Memo Deletion of Policies (From Academic Affairs Committee)***

***03.08.19.04 Policy 2.1.6 Undergraduate Proficiency Examination (From Academic Affairs Committee)***

***03.08.19.06 Policy 2.1.7 College Level Examination Program (From Academic Affairs Committee)***

***03.08.19.05 Policy 2.1.8 Community College And Other Transfer Students (From Academic Affairs Committee)***

***03.08.19.07 Policy 4.1.18 Transfer Of Credit Current (From Academic Affairs Committee)
02.27.19.03 Policy 4.1.18 Transfer Of Credit MARK UP (From Academic Affairs Committee)***

***03.08.19.08 Policy 4.1.18 Transfer Of Credit Clean Copy (From Academic Affairs Committee)***

Senator Kalter: We now move on to Information Items. So as you might remember from the top of our remarks, we’re just talking, making observations about the items on this list. And we are starting with one that is a carryover, actually I think all of these are carryovers from things that we didn’t get completed this past 2018-2019 year. So we’re starting with some consolidation of policies, with regards to transfer credits, and I’m going to turn it over to the former chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, Senator Pancrazio who will be able to introduce that, and we also have Dr. Amy Hurd and Jess Ray in the audience if they need to answer questions.

Senator Pancrazio: Thank you. As part of our regular review process the Academic Affairs Committee circulated 4.1.18, and in doing so we had a suggestion from the Registrar to include a number of different policies that would be 2.1.6, 2.1.7, and 2.1.8. All of these policies have to do with transfer credit in some way or another. The Academic Affairs Committee considered it and went ahead and approved it, and the rationale is that there were a number or redundancies in all of those policies and because they were on different review cycles, those policies quite often had different language. So, for example, for the policy for admitting credit for our veterans that come in and bring credit with them from their military institutions, we had two different sets of language, so when I asked which one was the most accurate, the Registrar said neither. So what we think from the point of view from administering the policy, reviewing the policy, and applying it, it would be better to have all things transfer under one policy. It would just be easy for students, for administrators, and for Senators.

Okay. The second part is that we have a number of different stylistic changes, policy changes and updates and in that vein, because there’s so many policies that are intertwined, and what we have here in front of us is the finalized copy. It is dependent upon whether the Senate accepts all things transfer under one roof. So even though this is an Information Item, I would like the Senate to actually address that first before we start discussion of copy editing, because if we don’t like the idea of all thing transfer under one policy it would mean that the AAC would have to go back and untangle and add in all of these other policies… It would just save it, so in that vein I would ask that possibly (if you’d indulge me) that we would move this one item, all things transfer under one policy, move that to an Action Item. That would include… only be a suspension of rules, I know it’s early in the season but that would save the Academic Affairs… Because if we don’t like the idea they have to go back to the drawing board.

Senator Kalter: I’m going to recommend, actually, that instead of doing that part tonight, that we wait for the Action Item next time, but that we discuss that now, so that if there is opposition we know to simply send it back.

Senator Pancrazio: Normally, that would come under the discussion for suspending rules, or for that, and it would be open to all that, however, if we start discussing… There are almost 10 pages and if we start copy editing 10 pages, and we don’t like the idea of it being under one roof we could spend a lot of… we could be here kind of late.

Senator Kalter: In the interest of order, I agree that we should restrict the next five minutes or less of conversation to that question, just not move it to Action.

Senator Pancrazio: I would concede that.

Senator Kalter: Yeah. So are there any objections to the proposal to consolidate these policies? Do people see issues with bringing them all together into a single policy? Do we need to debate that in any way or question it in any way?

Senator Pancrazio: I’m liking this.

Senator Kalter: That’s what I thought would happen.

Senator Pancrazio: That is what I was hoping would happen.

Senator Kalter: So we can now proceed then to discussing the nuts and bolts, and copy editing if we so choose. Do we have questions, comments, concerns, confusions, or anything about these policies?

Senator Pancrazio: Could we ask Jess Ray and Dr. Hurd to come forward here? Join us.

Senator Kalter: Absolutely.

Senator Horst: I had one small comment, or two small comments. The first one is…

Senator Pancrazio: Which document? Clean copy or mark up?

Senator Horst: The mark up. On page 7

Senator Kalter: And remembering that there are several mark ups so let’s be specific about numbers.

Senator Horst: Near the words, “determining satisfactory academic performance,” above that. The policy cites IAI which I believe is an acronym for something, I had to look it up. It might be helpful to define that term.

Senator Kalter: Illinois Articulation Initiative. I think it would be nice to define it.

Mr. Ray: Illinois Articulation Initiative is a statewide initiative that has over a hundred participating institutions. It has to do with two different types of transfer coursework, a package of gen ed, which is five different areas or 37- 41 hours, and then specific areas of majors that the state has interest in helping transfer and that’s more of a course to course…

Senator Horst: Yes, I looked it up. I’m just suggesting that you put that in, Illinois Articulation Initiative, define what IAI is, as opposed to assuming what the acronym means. And then my second comment has to do with the comment RJ6, since this is my field, you talked about the proficiency tests, and I was just wondering if at all you wanted to… Is there any language about the proficiency process? You mentioned it… You were taking out the escrow credit.

Mr. Ray: If you are talking about specific escrow credit, that’s just another way of looking at proficiency credit. In the past, we had called it out specifically. There’s only one area on campus that truly uses it that way, and really it is a proficiency. We’re saying you are getting credit for having accomplished something, so it’s similar to proficiency.

Senator Horst: Yes. I was wondering if you wanted to develop any language about proficiency processes such as exist in the School of Music, or just say that they exist or…

Mr. Ray: Because everybody is a little bit different on how they do their process…

Senator Horst: You don’t want to mention it. Okay.

Mr. Ray: It gets a little complicated for the process.

Senator Horst: Okay. Very good.

Mr. Ray: But thank you for the question. It’s a good question.

Senator DeGrauwe: Regarding the Military Education programs, does the university determine what credits…

Senator Pancrazio: What page?

Senator DeGrauwe: Sorry, this is on the clean copy, it’s page eight. Does the University determine what credits are able to be used, or is it a different higher function? Because this is saying the American Council of Education, we follow their recommendation list, but if it’s not recommended, is that automatically a no?

Mr. Ray: No. It give us… we still have the ability where it’s applicable and makes sense. And the cases where it’s not covered by the American Council of Education, we would reach out to the area which has the most academic alignment with that experience, and ask for their input on it. So it doesn’t completely take it off the table. But typically what happens is the American Council of Education faculty from institutions actually go and experience what’s going on on bases in those training, in those activities, and are giving their recommendations based upon their curricular background and expertise. So usually, if it hasn’t been through that process, then we would have to go to the department, because there are some course or training experiences that may not have been processed yet. Does that answer your question?

Senator DeGrauwe: Yes. So before I came here, I was a medic in the military, and now I’m a nursing student, and nothing that I had transferred. So is that up to the College of Mennonite Nursing? Are they the ones that decided that?

Mr. Ray: So it depends on the process that you had gone through. Well, we can talk afterward on specifics, but it is… some of the credit that comes through, through the American Council of Education, the recommendation is not necessarily a course specific transfer, right. So they’re saying two hours of a Business course, two hours of a Nursing course, and so sometimes it’s not necessarily something that would meet a very specific requirement. We try to make them match when and where we can but sometimes it may not be applicable. It’s just credit.

Senator DeGrauwe: Awesome. Thank you.

Senator Kalter: All right. Further questions? I had a couple things. I had send Dr. Hurd some questions and she answered them, so I wanted to in a minute read some of those or ask her to sort of explain the answers or Jess Ray to explain them. I did notice that there was one that got left out of the answers that I only just noticed. So there is a comment on the mark up of page eight, J10 (and I’m not sure whether that was Jess Ray 10, or Jim Pancrazio 10, or Jonathan Rosenthal 10) but it says that the Academic Affairs Committee recommends removing this phrase because students will not be reading this policy, advisors need to tell them. And the phrase is under “additional ways students may obtain credit.” I believe it’s the one that reads, “Students are advised to plan their course work and examination attempts carefully, because they may not receive credit by examination for a course in which they have been enrolled on the tenth day of class.” I think is what it said. There is something that has changed there that says, “They will not receive credit by examination for a course for which they are enrolled,” right. So what’s being taken out appears to be that students are advised that they should plan their coursework, and the rationale for taking that out is that students don’t read the policy. I wasn’t convinced that that was a good enough rationale for taking out that phrase, or some reference to the importance of that planning of coursework, due to the fact that they won’t receive credit if they’re enrolled, right. So I’m just curious about that one. It seem harmless to leave it in and not better to leave it out.

Senator Pancrazio: That is my comment there, and that came from members of the SGA, the student Senators, and they said specifically that a student would not have all the requisite information to be able to know, especially a first time in college student would not have all that information, so they needed the advisors to do that. And that was, I think, the nut of the comment.

Senator Kalter: So presumably advisors are reading this policy. I would hope. Or at least being advised by people who are reading the policy. So should that not then stay in as a reminder of that? In other words, we have really excellent advisor training, right, and advisory support…

Senator Pancrazio: True. The crux of the response was not to put that burden on the student, but rather on the advisor. So if we can come up with wording I think we’d take into consideration, let me see, the comments and the real meaning that was coming from the members of the… student Senators.

Senator Kalter: But the policy is being read not just by… in fact your committee said it’s not being read by students at all. Presumably advisors are one of the audiences. Should it not stay in there?

Senator Pancrazio: If you have a recommendation, please go ahead and make one.

Senator Kalter: The recommendation is to keep it basically the way it was. To revert back to the original language. “Students are advised to plan their coursework and examination attempts carefully.”

Senator Pancrazio: Students are advised, that does place the burden on the students.

Senator Kalter: Okay, so we could say…

Senator Pancrazio: The students are advised to listen to their advisors. That would probably be much more reasonable, and I think that was the… I don’t know, can we get some response…

Senator Kalter: I can send you that audience-change language in the interim. In other words, if it’s the way that it’s phrased that puts a burden on students, I don’t have to waste everybody’s time trying to come up with that on the floor. I can just send that to you as advice on to how to change that while retaining the idea that we’re reminding people of that.

Senator Pancrazio: Okay. That’d be fine.

Senator Kalter: And then maybe it’d be best if Dr. Hurd and Mr. Ray went over some of the other things that we had shared back and forth, and Dr. Hurd made some comments about the questions I had asked.

Dr. Hurd: We’ll tag team off this because we did the responses together. The first question came on page three under “Credit Based on Level and Nature of Transfer Coursework” under “Undergraduate Level” the question was, it says, “…as defined by the college or university” and it was questioned “which college and university?” It’s the one where the courses are being transferred from. So we look at how they define lower and upper level.

Mr. Ray: And that’s important because Illinois State University is unique in institutions. We are the only institution I’m aware of that says 200 level is a senior level course. So that does cause confusion for students from time to time, because if it equates to one of our 200-level courses, it doesn’t necessarily carry the senior college credit.

Senator Kalter: And I had asked about that because in the parenthesis it says, “as defined by the college or university.” It doesn’t say as defined by the college or university from which the transfer credit is coming and so it could be interpreted as ISU.

Dr. Hurd: Two paragraphs down there was a question about the grade of an S. And our system does not have S. So courses that are transferred in we need for them to have a letter grade. So for grad courses, it’s an A or B.

Senator Kalter: That one is a critical question, because I came from a system that offered as a grad student S/U, rather than an A/B/C/D/F, and I would regret if for some reason if we aren’t maybe admitting people from the University of California who are stellar graduate student, who we want to recruit, and we’re telling them then that their graduate credits don’t transfer because they came in the form of an S. And what I had said late this afternoon, I think it was, is even if we brought it in at a B, because usually that’s defined as S equals A or B and they don’t tell you which, that that’s better to have the transfer credit coming through than not at all, so that those systems that use the S system in graduate education essentially, are those students at a disadvantage if we keep that as our policy? I agree with it on the undergraduate level, but I’d ask us to reconsider it on the graduate level.

Dr. Hurd: And when we have some of those that come in, and I can only recall one time when I was a Director of the Graduate School we had someone bring in a transcript like that, and we reviewed it individually, and then we made the decision there, and we actually did take them.

Senator Kalter: Can we say that in the policy? That we take those on a case-by-case basis? Something for consideration?

Mr. Ray: Usually exceptions are exceptions to a policy but…

Senator Kalter: Because this is the Information Item session, I’m asking for that to be considered in the next couple of weeks, as something that I would recommend building in at the graduate level.

Mr. Ray: The argument with the S could then also be applied to the CR, and the P, as well then? Because, again, I’m not aware of institutions, but I know that when we had to do some things with the state licensure for teacher education, we had to clearly define that a C grade, or a CR grade at our institution is the equivalent of a C. So I’m not sure how that fits into the…

Senator Kalter: Yeah, I mean what I’m seeing is that this policy—although it may originally have been written for both undergrads and graduates—might differentially affect graduate students in a less desirable way. So if we can have some consideration about that in the next couple of weeks, I’d appreciate it.

Dr. Hurd: The next one is on my page six, the Determination of Hours Awarded. It says, “Transfer credit from community colleges is limited to 70 semester hours.” There was a question as to why it’s not 60. Back in 2012, we moved from 60 to 70. We were looking at time to degree, and students were bringing in more than 60 hours, so we did some benchmarking to see what other universities (especially in the state) were doing, and they were at the 70s. So to be consistent with what was going on in the rest of the state, and what is in the best interest of our students, and time to degree, that was moved to 70.

Mr. Ray: We also have a residency policy, which ensures that the student is taking a significant amount of their coursework here at Illinois State University as part of our accreditation.

Dr. Hurd: Page seven. The section on the Illinois Transferable General Education Core Curriculum, you will get an edited version of that, to make it a little bit more clear about what IAI is compared to what is the GECC (General Education Core Curriculum) just to make sure that it is more understandable. So you’ll get that. On the very last page, there was a question about the “Appeals”, and it says that they must be sent in writing. And a question was made why not email? We consider email to be in writing. There was a question on the website, that it doesn’t go directly to a section. It goes to the transfer section and there’s a lot of information in that section. And the Registrar’s getting to redo their website, so that’s a good thing.

Senator Kalter: I can’t tell you how much I appreciate that last thing, because when I went to look for it while reading this policy, I was very confused about where to look. So if I was confused probably everybody else is potentially confused, especially students.

Senator Horst: Could we then if email is acceptable, could you include your email address?

Mr. Ray: We do have an alias that we use for the Registrar’s office, which we could use: registrar@ilstu.edu

Senator Horst: By giving a street address it appears it has to be in an actual physical letter.

Mr. Ray: Sure.

Senator Kalter: All right. Any questions, comments, suggestions, for changes? All right. See none. We’ll move to our next Information Item. Thank you Dr. Hurd and Mr. Ray.

***04.29.19.01 Email from Planning and Finance Committee***

***04.29.19.02 Policy 7.1.22 Foundation 2018-2019 MARK UP (From Planning and Finance Committee)
08.06.19.12 Policy 7.1.22 Foundation 2018-2019 Clean Copy (From Planning and Finance Committee)***

Senator Mainieri: The committee reviewed under regular review policy 7.1.22 in regard to the Foundation, and worked with Pat Vickerman to make changes, to update primarily just bringing some things up to date including the purpose of the Foundation, links to the bylaws, and then there was quite a bit of specificity in the original policy in regards to vouchers and things of that nature which the committee thought wasn’t necessarily the place to have that level of specificity. So those were the primary changes, other than minor editorial and terminology updates.

Senator Kalter: Thank you. Do we have questions, comments, concerns about the changes? Looks like the committee did good work. Without any questions or concerns, we’ll see this one back on the agenda in two weeks.

***12.12.16.04 - Policy 4.1.20 Final Course Grade Challenge Policy CURRENT COPY (From Academic Affairs Committee)***

***06.17.19.10 - Policy 4.1.20 Final Course Grade Challenge Policy MARK UP (From Academic Affairs Committee)***

***08.06.19.06 - Policy 4.1.20 Final Course Grade Challenge Policy Clean Copy (From Academic Affairs Committee)***

Senator Pancrazio: Again, this is part of our regular review process. We cleaned up the document, there was a number of typos, added a few clarifications, got some input from student Senators, and I believe there was another addition that came from the Exec committee just to add an additional reference to the Equal Opportunity/Non-Discrimination statement. So we added all that and we believe it’s ready for your review. I’ll take questions if you have any.

Senator Kalter: Any questions, comments, concerns, suggestions for changes on this one? All right. That looks good then. That one will probably appear back again in two weeks. The final one is the Dean’s List. This was originally on the Consent Agenda, but we decided even though there are no changes to put it on the regular agenda. Do you want to say anything about that one, Senator Pancrazio?

***09.13.18.07 Policy 2.1.10 Deans' List CURRENT (From Academic Affairs Committee)***
Senator Pancrazio: Again, it was part of our regular policy review. We did not have any recommendations for changes. So again, we brought this policy back to the Senate as is.

Senator Kalter: Great. Dean’s List. Any questions, comments, concerns, changes that you’d like to suggest? All right. We’ll see that one again in two weeks then. With no Consent Agenda items, we move to finding out who the chairs were who were elected and who the secretaries were.

***Academic Affairs Committee:*** Chair Dimitrios Nikolaou/ Secretary Alex Campbell

***Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee:*** Chair David Marx/ Secretary Vacant

***Faculty Affairs Committee:*** Chair Tony Crowley/ Secretary Vacant

***Planning and Finance Committee:*** Chair Tracy Mainieri/ Secretary Stuart Palmer

***Rules Committee:*** Chair Scott Seeman/ Secretary Angel Zamudio (back up Secretary Mitchell DeGrauwe)

***Communications***

Senator Kalter: All right. Does anybody have any Communications for the Senate? And by Communications I mean that you can pretty much say anything that you want to. You can bring up Senses of the Senate Resolutions for us to vote on. You can announce plays, activities, sell offs, whatever that might be going on. You can ask questions as long as they weren’t more appropriate in the Administrator Remarks, and they’re not like super urgent. So do we have any Communications? Anybody want to model a Communication for us? We’re all ready to go home.

Senator Pancrazio: Again I’m speaking on behalf of the group that teaches the Success 101 classes, and that we have found that some of the students, especially the first time in college students, do have some difficulties getting books, or making sure that their loans are here, and that the books access codes and clickers… It’s occasionally that they don’t have those yet or they don’t have their money. We ask that you reach out to those students, and if you can direct them best you can, either to reserve sections where they can get copies of the books. If there are trial access codes, try to get them online as quickly as possible. And for clickers there are a couple of different options. Mark Walbert is talking about mobile devices may be coming in, and hopefully we will be able to see that soon. But one of the problems with some of the first time in college students is that they don’t self-advocate, so it’s often good to reach out to them individually, because if they don’t have the access codes, the clickers, and the books they’re not included yet. Please take that extra minute to look in and reach out.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Thank you so much.

Senator McClellan: I just want to say that earlier we talked about how this is like our largest diverse group of students, with that being said I want to mention, what are we going to do for retention? It’s easy to get students here and get diverse students here, but what are we doing to keep them here? What programs are we emplacing for them?

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Thank you. And it’s not that it’s January when you should wait for, but in January/ February we usually have a report on underrepresented students in particular, and talk about student success there, and all of the things that the university is doing. But you can also ask about that in committees.

Senator Kosberg: I don’t want to bring up stuff that we’ve already talked about, but the students living in the lounges is a lot… Like the ripple effect is bigger than just those students, because on our floors since we don’t have access to a lounge there’s not a shared space for us. I remember last year we all brought… Like we’d bring in a TV in every Sunday and we’d watch the Bears game together. And if there are students in the lounge we’re not doing that anymore. We’re not having floor meetings in the lounge. We’re not having game night. There are things that happen on our floors, and like it is a community, we just can’t, and that’s unfortunate.

Senator Kalter: Thank you Senator Kosberg. I’ve been listening to these kinds of things for at least 10 years, about every once and a while or maybe even every fall we have students who are living in the lounges, and it is frustrating that we can’t figure out a way in the long term to solve that problem permanently. So hopefully, maybe SGA can kind of help the University get together a little mini task force, and start working with the powers that be, and figuring out is there a way we can plan for this so that we’re starting to eliminate that as part of our practices here on our campus.

***Adjournment***

Motion by Senator Zamudio, seconded by Senator Marx, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.